

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ASMARA 00317 181354Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 OC-06 CCO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-08 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 TRSE-00 AID-05

OMB-01 SY-05 DHA-02 ACDA-07 PM-04 H-01 L-03

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 NEA-10

/117 W

-----181629Z 122594 /46

R 181325Z APR 77

FM AMCONSUL ASMARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4465

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

INFO AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON

COMNAVTELCOM WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN

COMIDEASTFOR

NAVCOMMUNIT ASMARA

NAVCOMMSTA NEA MAKRI

CNO WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L ASMARA 0317

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS ET

SUBJECT: PRO-EPMG DEMONSTRATION HELD IN ASMARA

1. EPMG AUTHORITIES IN ASMARA ORGANIZED A "SPONTANEOUS" DEMONSTRATION IN ASMARA IN SUPPORT OF MENGHISTU'S POLICIES ENUNCIATED IN HIS SPEECH OF APRIL 14. TRADE UNIONS, KEBELES AND GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES WERE SPECIFICALLY INSTRUCTED IN AN ANNOUNCEMENT ON ASMARA RADIO THE NIGHT BEFORE THE DEMONSTRATION TO ASSEMBLE AT DESIGNATED POINTS AND PROCEED TO THE HQ OF THE REGIONAL ADMINISTRATION AT 9:00 AM. ALL BUSINESS, FACTORIES AND OFFICES  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ASMARA 00317 181354Z

WERE TO REMAIN CLOSED DURING THE DEMONSTRATION.

2. DEMONSTRATORS ASSEMBLED AS INSTRUCTED MONDAY MORNING (APRIL 18) AND PROCEED TO THE GOVERNMENT HQ. THE CITY WAS VERY QUIET, AS ALL NON-PARTICIPANTS APPARENTLY REMAINED IN THEIR HOMES. ALTHOUGH SECURITY WAS TIGHT AND NUMEROUS TROOPS WERE IN EVIDENCE, THE INSURGENTS DID CREATE SOME MINOR DISTURBANCES. THERE WERE

TWO EXPLOSIONS ABOUT 9:30 WHICH FRIGHTENED OFF A GROUP OF FACTORY WORKERS. ABOUT 10:00 AM SEVERAL SHOTS WERE FIRED IN THE DOWNTOWN AREA WITH NO APPARENT EFFECT.

3. SOME 12-15,000 DEMONSTRATORS PARTICIPATED CARRYING POSTERS PROVIDED BY THE LOCAL EPMG AUTHORITIES HEARD THREE SPOKESMEN REPRESENTING THE KEBELES, TRADE UNIONS AND THE HAMASIEN PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT READ STATEMENTS OF SUPPORT FOR THE EPMG IN ITS STRUGGLE AGAINST NUMEIRI, SADAT AND CIA MACHINATIONS. CHIEF ADMINISTRATOR FIKRU RESPONDED WITH A BRIEF MESSAGE OF THANKS FOR THEIR SUPPORT. THE ASSEMBLAGE THEN DISBANDED WITHOUT FURTHER INCIDENT.  
WAUCHOPE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS, PARAMILITARY FORCES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 18-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977ASMARA00317  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770134-0236  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** ASMARA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770449/aaaabpur.tel  
**Line Count:** 75  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** fecdcba3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 08-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2780940  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PRO-EPMG DEMONSTRATION HELD IN ASMARA  
**TAGS:** PINS, ET  
**To:** STATE ADDIS ABABA  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/fecdcba3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009